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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT



SPONSOR: Sanchez DATE TYPED: 2/6/02 HB HJM 35

SHORT TITLE: Coordinated Strategy For Terrorist Threats SB _____

ANALYST: Wilson

APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY02	FY03	FY02	FY03		
		Indeterminate	\$0.1		

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Department of Health (DOH)
 Department of Public Safety (DPS)
 Commission on Higher Education (CHE)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

HJM 35 requests the DOH, the State Department of Agriculture, the New Mexico Livestock Board and other appropriate state agencies to further develop and implement a coordinated strategy to prevent and respond, if necessary, to biological and chemical terrorist threats or attack upon the State of new Mexico's agricultural industry.

HJM 35 asks the state universities of New Mexico to collaborate with the national laboratories located in New Mexico to develop defenses against possible biological and chemical terrorist attacks.

HJM further asks that state agencies and universities collaborate with the agricultural communities of New Mexico and representatives from agricultural organizations to develop methods to prepare and defend against potential biological and chemical terrorist attacks against New Mexico's agricultural industry.

Significant Issues

- Agriculture is significant to state and national homeland security.
- There is a growing concern for potential biological and chemical terrorist attacks against both our state and national agricultural industries.
- A terrorist attack against New Mexico's agricultural industry can be more difficult to detect and easier to perpetrate than a terrorist attack against other civilian targets.
- The ramifications of a biological or terrorist attack on an agricultural target may extend far beyond the immediate agricultural community to affect other segments of society.
- A major biological or chemical terrorist attack against New Mexico's agricultural industry would cause economic destabilization, thus setting off a chain reaction touching the pocket-book of every citizen.
- A biological or chemical terrorist attack against New Mexico's agricultural industry would disrupt interactions between rural and urban areas of the state.
- New Mexico has an international border that must be protected from potential biological or chemical terrorist attacks against New Mexico's agricultural industry.
- New Mexico must protect its agricultural infrastructure universities and laboratories in New Mexico are currently central to the development of defenses against potential biological and chemical terrorist attacks against New Mexico's agricultural industry.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The study requested by HJM 35 can be done within existing resources, however the coordinated strategy that is developed will require additional funding for the participating agencies.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

All agencies involved in the coordinated strategy should be able to handle the requirements of HJM 35 with existing staff resources.

RELATIONSHIP

Relates to: SB 115, NMIMT Homeland Security Center
HB 154, NMIMT Homeland Security Center
SB 149, Emergency Response Plan
SB 162, San Juan Emergency Management Services
HJM 34, State Emergency Preparedness

DW/njw